

# Staff Summary Report



To: Mayor and City Council  
Through: City Manager

Agenda Item Number 24  
Meeting Date: 09/20/01

**SUBJECT:** CITY OF TEMPE PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN 2001

**PREPARED BY:** Hector Tapia, Senior Planner (480-350-8331)

**REVIEWED BY:** Dave Fackler, Development Services Manager (480-350-8333)

**BRIEF:** This is the first public hearing on the City of Tempe Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2001. The intent is to examine parks, open space, recreation facilities and recreation programs in Tempe.

**COMMENTS:** **PLANNED DEVELOPMENT (0406)** Hold the first public hearing for **CITY OF TEMPE PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN 2001** (City of Tempe, applicant). As an element of the General Plan 2020, the intent of the Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan (CPRMP) is to examine parks, open space, recreation facilities and recreation programs in Tempe. The purpose of this plan is as follows:

- Provide social benefits by connecting people within the community
- Provide economic benefits by improving the quality of life in the community
- Provide benefits to the environment by connecting people with nature through greenways, natural areas and open spaces managed by Parks and Recreation
- Provide benefits to individuals by promoting physical fitness and self improvement

Document Name: 20010920devsrh05

Supporting Documents: Yes

**SUMMARY:** On December 18, 1997, Resolution No. 97.84, City council approved General Plan 2020. The Plan includes 16 elements, one of which is the "Recreation Element" with the objective to "Implement the City of Tempe Long Range Community Services Plan". Details of the recreation element are found in a separate document and used as a reference with the Tempe General Plan 2020. Once the new recreation plan is formally adopted by City Council, the City of Tempe Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2001 will become the new reference. Planning Staff has worked with Community Services staff through the years during the development of the new plan. On August 28, 2001, Planning Commission approved this request on a 5-0 vote with two conditions. Staff supports this request and up to this date, no public input has been received.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff - Support  
Public - None

- ATTACHMENTS:**
1. List of Attachments/Conditions of Approval
  - A. Recreation Element, Page 55, General Plan 2020

**CONDITIONS  
OF APPROVAL ADDED  
BY PLANNING COMMISSION:**

1. Public spaces shall be created that are not tied to the automobile as approved by the specific neighborhood that encompasses the park as reference in the Northwest Tempe Neighborhood Strategic Plan.
2. Park Master Plan shall incorporate all of the planning elements in regards to the Papago Park as referenced in General Plan 2020.

## Recreation Element

### The Overall Goal of the Recreation Element

The overall goal of the Recreation Element is to encourage the provision of safe, usable open areas and recreation facilities that meet the needs of all Tempe residents and fit well into neighborhoods.

Objective to attain this Goal include:

#### *Objective 1. Implement the City of Tempe Long-Range Community Services Plan.*

##### Rationale

The Long-Range Plan Update 1989 document seeks to insure that park facilities be provided as the City develops and that facilities meet the needs of the community and neighborhoods. It is a free-standing document and is incorporated by reference into General Plan 2020. Any future updates shall supersede the 1989 Plan after formal adoption by the City Council and become incorporated by reference into General Plan 2020.

##### Implementation Strategies

1. Create facilities in neighborhood parks that reflect the needs and wishes of the immediate neighborhood.
2. Provide landscaping, lighting, picnic facilities, benches, playground equipment, parking and transit access appropriate to the types of activities held in each individual park.
3. Design all parks for safety and maintain parks in a manner which enhances safety.
4. Preserve the unique character of park areas during development and maintenance, whether it be desert character, historic assets or accepted value to the community.

##### Papago Park Conservation Strategies

The goal of this Papago Park Conservation Strategies Section is the conservation, reclamation and restoration of Papago Park's remaining natural and open spaces within and contiguous to, the boundaries of the City of Tempe.

Objective 1. Preserve and reclaim open space, special features and panoramic views in, from and through the natural environment in Papago Park.

Objective 2. Protect and restore flora and fauna indigenous to the natural environment within Papago Park.

Objective 3. Reclaim and restore damaged and inappropriately developed desert areas.

##### Implementation Strategies

1. Review and revise the Papago Park Master Plan in light of this goal.
2. Support an effort to create a comprehensive and unifying master plan for the original 2100 acres of the Papago Park area, now controlled by many different entities.